

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT NO.

TOPIC Information on Soviet Air Force Training Installations 25X1

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Firing range at Anklam airfield. The clearing up of debris at Anklam airfield took place from early 1952 until 17 March. The ruins along the east-west concrete road were razed by demolitions; however, the debris was not trucked away. A large pile of scrap was observed at the field. There was no change at the installations set up for firing practices. No firing practices were observed. Soviet officers and EM occasionally entered the field. (1)

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2. Barth airfield and firing range. For several months, Barth airfield has no longer been off limits. However, a request to permit the cultivation of the field was rejected by the Russians. The airfield buildings were destroyed but the runway was undamaged. The field was surrounded by a ditch with drainage pipes. In late February, the turf was removed from the landing field at 4 or 5 points forming circles about 25 meters in diameter. The center of the circles was marked by a cross. (2) Beginning in March 1952, swept-back jet fighters coming from the direction of Puetnitz approached the field. The last observation of this kind was made on 8 April. Strafing was practiced about four times a week for periods of six hours. The noise of aircraft was also heard at night. However, it could not be determined whether firing practices were also held at night. The field was cordoned off by Soviet soldiers when firing practices were being held. White wooden planks about 3 meters square and drum-shaped devices were used as targets. the drum-like devices caught fire when they were hit.

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3. Barth airfield was used as a pasture. In February 1952, the landing of a biplane was observed twice. It was noticed that a member of the crew surveyed in the western portion of the field. Since March, the installation has been approached by swept-back jet fighters. During the period from 9 through 16 March, bombs dropped by MiG-15s; however, no detonations were heard. (3)

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4. Kremmen bomb range. During the period from 12 through 21 March 1952, large white crosses and wooden bombs were observed at the Kremmen bomb range. The approaching aircraft appeared to be IL-2s and carried a bomb under the fuselage and two smaller bombs under each wing. Bombs were released in several approaches. The aircraft weapons were fired.

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5. Air force firing range at Kuhhorst. During the period from 1 through 12 March 1952, firing practices were conducted two or three times a week at the Kuhhorst firing range south of the Tietzow-Koenigshorst-Deutschen Hof road, north of Nauen. The jet fighters would approach the firing range in groups of four or five but fire individually. During these practices the Tietzow-Koenigshorst road was blocked by Soviet soldiers. (5)
- 25X1 6. Kummersdorf troop training grounds and air force training field. On 28 March 1952, [ ] the barracks installations in Kummersdorf quartered an air force unit, probably a signal unit. When bombing practices were held, this unit checked the telephone lines at the field.
- 25X1 7. At noon on 27 and 28 March 1952, jet bombers flying at a high altitude practiced individual bombing over the installation. From the sound of the detonations, [ ] bombs of various calibers were dropped. On 3 April, 60 to 80 planes flying in formations of four below an altitude of 1,000 meters dropped bombs over the field. About 1 p.m. on 5 April, live bombs were released by single-engine aircraft approaching in formations of 10 and 11. The planes dived when they released their bombs and simultaneously fired with their weapons. Escorting swept-back jet fighters dived at the target without releasing bombs. The same bomb practices were observed on 10 April. The aircraft involved were two-seater, single-engine planes. (6)
- 25X1 8. Troop training grounds and air force training field in Lieberose. On 20 March 1952, twin-engine aircraft fitted with double rudder assemblies dropped bombs while crossing the Lieberose air force training field in a horizontal flight at an altitude of 800 meters. One and two bombs were released on the first and second approaches respectively. Only one plane was observed over the field at a given time. (7)
- 25X1 [ ] Comments.
- (1) Prior to its transfer to Puetnitz, the fighter regiment in Puetnitz used the Anklam firing range. The data contained in this paragraph indicate that the installation will continue to function as a firing range for units of the Twenty-Fourth Air Army.
  - (2) These are the first indications that Barth airfield is scheduled to be converted into a firing and bomb range.
  - (3) It appears that Barth airfield is being used as a firing and bomb range by the air unit stationed in Puetnitz. It is believed that aircraft of the fighter regiment in Neubrandenburg participated in such practices in March and April. On 10 March 1952, the regiment concerned moved from Neubrandenburg to Puetnitz, apparently only for the purpose of firing practices.
  - (4) This bomb range east of Oranienburg is probably used by units of the ground attack division in Doberitz.
  - (5) According to a previous report, the Soviet commandant of this firing range is stationed in Finow. It is, therefore, believed that the installation is being used by the two fighter regiments stationed there. However, this assumption requires confirmation.
  - (6) These observations confirm previous information, according to which this bomb range is being used by units of the northern bomber division and ground attack units.
  - (7) It is believed that this item of information refers to practices by Pe-2s of the bomber regiment from Cottbus.

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